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United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

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APR 29 1992

DECL.: QADR

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

S/S

TO: P - Mr. Kanter

FROM: EAP - Richard H. Solomon

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Chinese Minister of Public Security
Tao Siju
• Beijing
May 7-8

I. PURPOSE:

- The Public Security Ministry has jurisdiction over three areas we need to press with the Chinese:
 - Exit permits: Even after the Foreign Minister's commitment to the Secretary last November, the Public Security Ministry continues to hold up many applications. The Foreign Ministry says its commitment is valid, but they have not given us a reply to the list you gave Vice Minister Liu.
 - Prisoners: We have sought unsuccessfully to get more detailed information on the situation and welfare of political prisoners under Tao's jurisdiction. You can pass directly to Tao the lists you gave Liu in March.
 - Narcotics: The Chinese are increasingly concerned about their trafficking problem; we cooperate on these issues, though the Chinese view the "Goldfish" political asylum case as an obstacle to cooperation.

II. PARTICIPANTS

U.S.

China

Under Secretary Kanter
Ambassador Roy

Minister Tao Siju
Ass't Minister Wang Jingrong

Attachments:

- Tab 1 - Talking Points
 - Tab 2 - Exit Permit Cases
 - Tab 3 - Prisoner Lists
 - Tab 4 - Religious Prisoners
 - Tab 5 - Biographic Information

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
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III. KEY POINTS

EXIT PERMITS

- o The Secretary was told in Beijing that all those without criminal proceedings against them would be allowed to leave after completing the usual formalities. Local authorities, however, have continued to refuse to grant exit permits to some dissidents and to family members of others.
 - Some prominent intellectuals, such as journalist Dai Qing and scholar Li Zehou, received exit permits after the Secretary's November visit; others, including family members and spouses of intellectuals and dissidents, have not been permitted to leave China.
 - Exit permit applicants must get approval from the local Public Security office. In many cases, this is the roadblock in the way of their departure.
 - We have updated for Tao's benefit the list of blocked exit cases you gave Liu Huaqiu in March.

PRISONERS

- o In June 1991, we asked the Chinese for an accounting of more than 800 prisoners of human rights concern.
 - Secretary Baker in November received a name-by-name response to the list. Our subsequent requests for additional information have been unavailing. We have had no reply to the lists you presented Liu Huaqiu.
- o The Chinese say they have nearly completed Tiananmen-era dissident cases and that sentences have been relatively lenient. Prominent Zhao Ziyang adviser, Bao Tong, recently ejected from the Party, has yet to come to trial, however.
 - We continue to stress that there are still prisoners such as Wei Jingsheng in prison since 1979.
- o Our prisoners list also includes those imprisoned for expression of their religious beliefs. Although the government generally tolerates the existence of unofficial churches if they remain small and discreet, both Catholics and Protestants who are too vocal and/or too popular face prosecution and possible imprisonment. Catholics who maintain obvious ties to Rome are particularly vulnerable.
- o The Secretary urged the Chinese to permit the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to have access to Chinese prisons. Ambassador Zhu told you this was a non-starter; we need to stress that the Chinese would find it in their interest to respond in some way to international concern for the welfare of imprisoned dissidents.

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NARCOTICS

- o China has drawn back from closer anti-narcotics cooperation with us since [redacted] the "Goldfish" case.
 - A drug trafficker China sent to testify for the prosecution in a 1990 San Francisco trial requested political asylum.
 - His request has been denied, but his legal appeals are moving slowly, with little prospect the case will be resolved for several years.
 - [redacted]
- o [redacted]
- o [redacted]
- o Congressional interest in the PRC's anti-narcotics efforts has grown after China was included on the "certifiables" list for the first time in 1991. Senate hearings on narcotics trafficking through the PRC are set for May 19.
 - China's certification listing was as a major transit country for Burmese opium and heroin, but there have also been reports of domestic production of opium, amphetamines and "ice" in China.
- o China has intensified its domestic anti-narcotics efforts.
 - Heroin abuse, mainly in southwestern border regions but also in municipal areas, is of growing concern, as is the growth of AIDS among the user population. Over 1900 kgs of heroin were seized in 1991 and nearly 2000 kgs of opium. In October 1991, 35 drug traffickers were publicly executed in Kunming, Yunnan.
- o China has signed an anti-narcotics cooperation pact with Burma, but with unknown practical impact.
- o The UN Drug Control Program has a limited assistance program in China and China has signed on to UN-funded income substitution projects with Burma and Thailand.

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